

me during my 19 years on the Senate and whose steady hand has remained on the helm of this committee for years, to give us the guidance and counsel that is so valued by all of us. All members of the Armed Services Committee have joined in the tribute.

I ask unanimous consent all members of the Armed Services Committee be made cosponsors of the amendment that the distinguished Senator from Michigan and I, together with our respective leaders, put forward.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. WARNER. Now, Mr. President, I join Senator THURMOND and Senator LEVIN in extending our great appreciation to Colonel Brownlee, George, David Lyles, and all others, and those who represent the Senators who have worked so hard on this bill and could not. We could not have a bill of this magnitude without their help. That is night and day and weekends. Colonel Browning said there would be no weekend off this weekend. I hate to pass that on.

Mr. President, I thank my distinguished colleague from Michigan. We came to the Senate together, and God willing, we will work together in future years. We so rarely have a cross word between us. I thank him for his kind remarks.

Mr. President, now on behalf of the distinguished chairman, Mr. THURMOND, I ask unanimous consent that S. 2057, as amended, be printed as passed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. WARNER. On behalf of the distinguished chairman, I ask further unanimous consent that the Senate proceed immediately to the consideration en bloc of S. 2058 through S. 2060, Calendar Order Numbers 365, 366, and 367; that all after the enacting clause of those bills be stricken and that the appropriate portion of S. 2057, as amended, be inserted in lieu thereof, as follows:

In lieu of S. 2058, Insert Division C of S. 2057, as Passed;

In lieu of S. 2059, Insert Division B of S. 2057, as Passed;

In lieu of S. 2060, Insert Division A of S. 2057, as Passed; and that these bills be advanced to third reading and passed; that the motion to reconsider en bloc be laid upon the table; and that the above actions occur without intervening action or debate.

I further ask unanimous consent that the Senate Report No. 105-189, the report to the Committee on Armed Services on S. 2060, be deemed to be the report of the committee accompanying S. 2057.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (S. 2058) was deemed read the third time and passed.

(The text of S. 2058 will appear in a future edition of the RECORD.)

The bill (S. 2059) was deemed read the third time and passed.

(The text of S. 2059 will appear in a future edition of the RECORD.)

The bill (S. 2060) was deemed read the third time and passed.

(The text of S. 2060 will appear in a future edition of the RECORD.)

Mr. WARNER. On behalf of our distinguished chairman, Mr. President, with respect to H.R. 3616, the House-passed version of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1999, is named in honor of our distinguished chairman. I ask unanimous consent that the Senate turn to its immediate consideration; that all after the enacting clause be stricken and the text of S. 2057, as passed, be submitted in lieu thereof; that the bill be advanced to third reading and passed; that the title of S. 2057 be substituted for the title of H.R. 3616; that the Senate insist on its amendments to the bill and the title and agree to or request a conference, as appropriate, with the House on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses and the Chair be recognized to appoint conferees; that the motion to reconsider the above-mentioned vote be laid upon the table; and that the foregoing occur without intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (H.R. 3616), as amended, was considered, read the third time, and passed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER appointed Mr. THURMOND, Mr. WARNER, Mr. MCCAIN, Mr. COATS, Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire, Mr. KEMPTHORNE, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. SANTORUM, Ms. SNOWE, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mr. GLENN, Mr. BYRD, Mr. ROBB, Mr. LIEBERMAN, and Mr. CLELAND, conferees on the part of the Senate.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREEMENT—S. 2057, S. 2058, S. 2059 and S. 2060

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent with respect to S. 2057, 2058, 2059 and 2060, as just passed by the Senate, that if the Senate receives the message with respect to any one of these bills from the House of Representatives, the Senate disagree with the House on its amendment or amendments to the Senate-passed bill and agree to or request a conference, as appropriate, with the House on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses; that the Chair be authorized to appoint conferees; and that the foregoing occur without any intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I advise the Chair that there are no further matters relating to this important piece of legislation.

I thank the Chair.

Mr. BURNS. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. BURNS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. BURNS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that there be a period for the transaction of routine morning business until 11:30, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### RETIREMENT OF COLONEL RON FRANKS

Mr. THURMOND. Mr. President, I rise today to honor a fine Marine Officer, Colonel Ron Franks, the Deputy Legislative Assistant to the Commandant of the Marine Corps, who will soon retire from active duty.

Colonel Franks' career began more than twenty-five years ago, following his graduation from the University of Central Texas, when he became a Marine aviator flying the venerable Huey helicopter. A few years later, Ron Franks switched from rotor wing aircraft to fixed wing, becoming a C-130 pilot, but flying some of the world's most advanced aircraft would not be the limit of this officer's duties.

In a career as long as the one Colonel Franks has had, one is bound to have some interesting and challenging tasks and assignments. In the case of Ron Franks, his experiences have ranged from leading Marine aviators into combat during Operation Desert Storm as the squadron commander of VMGR-252 to helping the Commandant of the Marine Corps monitor the activities of the Legislative Branch. Without question, he was most efficient and successful in his duties monitoring Congress and working to represent the interests and concerns of the Marine Corps. Additionally, the Colonel is a graduate of the Naval War College, and earned a master's degree in business administration from Boston University, both of which are excellent indications not only of his commitment to seeking professional and personal improvement, but of the high caliber individual who serves as an officer of Marines. Finally, in almost three decades of service, Ron Franks has amassed an impressive list of awards and recognitions which include the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal, and the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal.

As Colonel Franks prepares to end his military service, I am certain that he will be missed by all those who have worked with him and come to know him. He has rendered the Nation a great service through his career as a Marine Officer and we are grateful for the sacrifices he has made in order that the United States may remain free and safe. I wish Colonel Franks, his wife Debby, and their children Kristen and Kimberly much health and happiness in the years ahead.